

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 167

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance for the construction, improvement, and rehabilitation of farmers markets.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

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## A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide financial assistance for the construction, improvement, and rehabilitation of farmers markets.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Farmers Markets In-  
5       frastructure Assistance Act of 2007”.

6       **SEC. 2. INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING FOR FARMERS MAR-**  
7       **KETS.**

8       (a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to exercising authority  
9       to make loans and loan guarantees under other law, the  
10      Secretary shall make loans, loan guarantees, and grants

1 to public agencies and nonprofit organizations for the con-  
2 struction of new farmers markets, or the improvement or  
3 rehabilitation of existing farmers markets.

4 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a loan,  
5 loan guarantee, or grant under subsection (a) with respect  
6 to a farmers market the public agency or nonprofit organi-  
7 zation involved shall—

8 (1) demonstrate financial need as determined  
9 by the Secretary; and

10 (2) commit to reserving at least 50 percent of  
11 the floor area of the farmers market for the sale of  
12 products that are produced locally, as determined by  
13 the Secretary, by farmers, ranchers, or aquaculture,  
14 mariculture, or fisheries operators, or by associa-  
15 tions of farmers, ranchers, or such operators.

16 (c) COST SHARING.—

17 (1) GRANTS.—The amount of a grant shall not  
18 exceed 25 percent of the cost of the activity funded  
19 under subsection (a).

20 (2) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF COMBINED GRANT  
21 AND LOAN.—The combined amount of a grant and  
22 loan made or guaranteed shall not exceed 80 percent  
23 of the cost of the activity funded under subsection  
24 (a).

25 (d) INTEREST RATE.—

1           (1) IN GENERAL.—A loan made by the Sec-  
2       retary under subsection (a) shall bear interest at the  
3       rate equivalent to the rate of interest charged on  
4       Treasury securities of comparable maturity on the  
5       date the loan is approved.

6           (2) DURATION.—The interest rate for each loan  
7       will remain in effect for the term of the loan.

8           (e) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Cred-  
9       it Corporation, the Secretary shall make available to carry  
10      out this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007  
11      through 2012.

12          (f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect 60  
13      days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

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